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fully forget your great and good name, when you engage in oaths premeditatedly against your brethren, you whose hospitable doors were never yet known to be closed against the stranger or unfortunate. It is well known that you have warm and feeling hearts, then why should the malicious demons of wickedness, be suffered to infuse the poison of disaffection, in order to degrade you below your true character. Cast such vile reptiles from your confidence, and shew you are once more Irishmen, who disdain to become the scoff and odium of every nation on earth. Shew that you will no longer be induced by mean incendiaries to violate the sacred ties of love and friendship in the bosom of your country; for who amongst you meeting your countryman from home, would not lend him your assistance, if necessity required it, and why should your hearts be so callous to all noble feelings, as to murder and massacre each other at home? No! Irishmen! disdain such an imputation, and shew the world you are men who will not sully your great and good name by such infamous acts of barbarism. U.H.
Donegore, August 29, 1814.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

EDWARD WAKEFIELD'S LECTURE, DELIVERED AT THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, ON THE 16TH OF MARCH 1813.

IN those countries where freedom and the arts have not yet been introduced, or introduced in but a comparatively trifling degree, we find the progress of agriculture nearly stationary, and with it an unincreasing population: but wherever the farmer has been encouraged by the protection of his government or the fostering hand of science, the

principle of life has been awakened in exact proportion to the means of subsistence; and an infinite number of human beings have been called to all the joys of existence, that without such support would in all probability have remained in oblivion, or without the pleasure of being useful to their species or grateful to their creator.

From agriculture the chief and original source of national wealth, the whole circle of arts and manufactures derive their support and encouragement. At an early stage in the progress of man they are found mutually to assist and to protect each other, and the pace of improvement becomes by their union rapid and increasing. It is thus that the plough, the shuttle, and the sail, confer their benefits reciprocally; and by the exchange of the products of the different climates of the earth the inhabitants of the polar regions enjoy the luxuries of the tropics, and the swarthy children of the line draw whatever is useful to them from the more temperate regions.

Increasing as is the ardour for agricultural pursuits in this country, and much as has been achieved in the way of improvement, yet the spirit, it is to be hoped, has not attained its highest fervour, nor must the improvements stop with our present acquirements. From this pursuit we ought to derive one of the greatest of national securities, that of being independent of foreign states for the means of subsistence. With full markets, an industrious population, and a moral and free government, to what heights of perfection may not man arrive! These considerations are of equal importance to all the subjects of this empire; they are as interesting to the elevated proprietor of large portions of the soil, as they are to the states-

man and politician; and, I shall add, quite as momentous to those more humble individuals, whose support and safety and whose comforts depend on the copious harvests of the year.

The stimulus which has in latter times been given to the agriculturist by the example of some splendid names, has been attended by the most beneficial results; it is now disgraceful for a country gentleman to be totally ignorant of rural economy. That great principle of action, self-interest, begins at length to add its influence to the aid of the hand of science. It is no longer considered as dangerous to seek information: landed proprietors and farmers anxiously endeavour to obtain knowledge for each other: and the result has been primarily an augmentation of the revenue of the farmer, and subsequently of the landlord. The bigotry of ancient habits is relaxing its hold upon this class of the community, and it seems about to taste the advantages of liberal sentiments and rational adventure.

It must not be supposed that I mean to apply these remarks, or these cheering prospects, to the general agriculture of the country, in the great mass of which there certainly exists a considerable proportion of the ancient barbarity that checked the advancement of this science in England, and which it will require incessant attention and unremitting endeavours on the part of the enlightened to reform and correct.

But we need not wonder at the pertinacity of the ignorant and the uneducated in their old habits and customs, when we find our seminaries of learning conducted by the same rules that governed them in the days of monkish superstition. A youth, as far as they are concerned, is educated for the thirteenth, rather than

the eighteenth century. For the improvement of agriculture, and the cultivation of an enlightened political economy, those subjects of the greatest importance to man, we find no provision in these institutions. There is something so hallowed in ignorance, that it is considered impious to lift the veil that should expose it to our view; and we are taught to bow to the Baal of former times, and to sacrifice to the shrine of dullness and stupidity. Many of my auditors must perceive the justice of these remarks, and will no doubt attribute them to their proper motives. If we be in error, the first step to correction is the knowledge of the source whence the error springs; and it is for this reason that I have brought this evil to your notice.

It might reasonably be supposed, that those characters who aspired to honour and distinction in former ages would have chosen to rest their fame on the advancement of a science so useful to their species. Unhappily for man, it is thought more glorious to lay waste and destroy than to preserve and improve; to acquire possessions by the sword, by the arts of intrigue and the strength of embattled armies, than by the arts of peace and industry.

After a rapid and eloquent survey of the devastations committed through successive ages by the unremitting rage of conquest and war, the lecturer cries, I turn from these destructive and bloody scenes to contemplate one brilliant and solitary instance of peaceful and equitable acquirement, in the treaty between the illustrious Penn and the Indian tribes of North America. That noble precedent to all settlers in a foreign land laid the foundation on which the United States have built their agricultural glory; and it will remain to all time a lasting triumph

of intelligence overstrength, of justice over oppression, of industry over ambition, avarice, and prodigality.

Still, in our day, it is but too evident, that prowess in the field, or address in the cabinet has a tendency to dazzle the eyes of mankind, and divert their view from objects conducing to their real interest. The offices which call into activity the violent and corrupt passions, obtain the ascendancy over those in which virtue and talents only are required; public opinion is perverted, and false prejudices destroy the empire of reason. In England, however, even in the worst periods of our history, agriculture was never wholly contemned, and it is now rising into that estimation which its importance demands.

There are many elevated characters among us, who deem the peaceful labours of the plough more honourable than those of the sword; and I may with truth state, that much of the present prosperity of the science is due to the incessant and ardent exertions of the venerable secretary of this board: by him was the opinion of the public guided and enlightened on this infallible source of national strength.

Compare the pursuits of country gentlemen of the present day with those that were favourite when he commenced his career, and we shall have every reason to congratulate ourselves and the country on a great revolution; not indeed complete, but proceeding with a most promising and rapid progress.

Legislative enactments are necessary to invest man with the possession of the property which his own industry or that of his forefathers has acquired. Laws must be formed for the assistance and protection of this great art: he who sows must be assured of his title to reap.

Here we perceive the necessity of establishing and maintaining a clear title to landed property; and no arguments are necessary to demonstrate how much depends on the clearness and simplicity of the law of landed property, how much soever we in this country may have to lament its extraordinary obscurity, complication, and uncertainty—the unhappy bequest of the rude ideas and institutions of a barbarous period, which the empire of custom, and of private and powerful interests growing out of the very evil, have prevented, hitherto a more enlightened age from redressing.

Among the unhappy relics of the same unenlightened period, we have to enumerate that truly barbarous circumstance, open field tenure; the pernicious effects of which are most glaring when the land has come under the operation of the plough. Absurd and injurious as this species of tenure certainly is, we may yet observe a multitude of instances of it over that vast tract of continent which reaches from the west of Europe to the east of Asia; and even in various parts of England, where they seem to be continued to remind the traveller that this free country was once governed by the laws of feudal tyranny. The lord of the manor, the tithe owner, the copyholder, and in many cases an individual having a partial claim, and disagreeing in the measure of partition, will cause great tracts of land to remain nearly waste, rather than consent to the measure of inclosure. Notwithstanding the active and continued exertions of many members of this board, for introducing one decisive act of general inclosure into the British Parliament, this patriotic project has been baffled by a powerful and hitherto successful opposition; and this, too, with the example of Scotland be-

fore our eyes. In that part of the empire a law has been in force since the year 1695, by which, at the instance of individual interest, an inclosure must take place; and the whole expense, although the division be instituted at the suit of only one claimant, must be defrayed by all the parties benefited, according to their respective shares. In a work written by a noble Lord, the late president of this board, (Lord Sheffield upon Grain, part iii. p. 165) he states that we have recourse to partial acts of inclosure in order to augment the fees of the officers attendant upon Parliament. No more striking instances than this can be adduced to prove the necessity of paying public officers by a fixed salary, rather than by sums unequally levied on individuals: a mode of payment which at once precludes the inclosure of all small pieces of land, and is the cause that, in many instances, the cost incurred in procuring the act have exceeded the value of the lands inclosed.

Can any arguments be urged more strongly in favour of general inclosure, than the fact that inclosed lands produce more corn, larger live stock, and a more vigorous and independent peasantry? It is a matter of universal experience, that the population in the neighbourhood of those wastes, is at once the most wretched and mischievous which the country any where exhibits. Even the cattle are a stunted and degenerate race.

Let us calculate the difference in the quantity of timber on waste lands compared with that on inclosures, and the result will be appalling; for timber is an article of produce too important to the landlord and to the nation not to claim the most serious attention. Upon waste lands

it arises rather by sufferance than by cultivation, and from its exposed situation is stunted at an early age; even upon copyhold tenures it is often wasted, as from the nature of title it is seldom the interest of the tenant to trouble himself with its culture. To recur, however, to inclosures, it must strike all reflecting minds, that every acre of ground inclosed is virtually an addition to the national territory, free from any incumbrance, and assisting rather than diminishing the national resources; very unlike the acquisition of colonial territory, in the pursuit of which we have been so ardent, which when acquired is generally an addition of unproductive dependents on the family of the nation.

I am not addressing you in an age when agriculture has redeemed so great an extent of soil in Britain as to afford subsistence to her inhabitants from the bosom of their own lands. At this moment there are thousands of British subjects in actual want of that bread which might be supplied from the surplus produce of those very wastes which lie in our way, as if to mock those legislators who, in the determination of opposing their inclosure, are passing to the capital to discharge their parliamentary duties. I am not stating to you a fact that is not notorious, when I say that millions of our money have been paid within the last twenty years to the nations of the European and American continents, for food to sustain our domestic population.

Allow me for an instant to call your attention to the extent of this evil, by comparing the amount of our imports with the quantities of grain exported in the early part of the last century.

1814.] *delivered at the Board of Agriculture.* 285

	Quarters.	Exported.	Imported.
From 1710 to 1720	{ the annual average quantity of all sorts of corn. }	449,193	71
1720 to 1730	- - - - -	536,336	924
1730 to 1740	- - - - -	549,477	4690
1740 to 1750	- - - - -	922,467	111
1750 to 1760	- - - - -	-	-
1760 to 1770	- - - - -	429,017	265,732
1770 to 1780	- - - - -	439,948	515,636
1780 to 1790	- - - - -	284,715	613,089

From 1792 to 1811 inclusive, a return has been made to Parliament of the prices of corn, and of exports and imports, which is an important document worthy your consideration.

Average Prices of Corn, Grain, &c. in each Year, from 1792 to 1811 inclusive, as published in the London Gazette, by the Receiver of Corn Returns.

Years.	Barley.	Beans.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Pease.	Rye.	Wheat.
	Pr. Qr.	Pr. Qr.	Pr. Qr.	Per Boll. 140 lbs.	Pr. Qr.	Pr. Qr.	Per Qr.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1792	26 9	31 7	17 10	33 0	32 3	30 8	42 11
1793	31 9	37 8	21 3	38 11	38 1	35 11	48 11
1794	32 10	42 6	22 0	38 1	46 8	37 9	51 8
1795	37 8	46 8	24 9	43 6	53 1	48 3	74 2
1796	35 7	38 10	21 9	42 9	43 6	47 0	77 1
1797	27 9	27 6	16 9	33 10	33 5	31 11	53 1
1798	29 1	30 1	19 10	36 8	33 1	30 11	50 3
1799	36 0	44 7	27 7	45 0	45 2	43 9	67 6
1800	60 0	69 3	39 10	72 1	67 5	76 11	113 7
1801	67 9	62 8	36 6	70 0	67 8	79 9	118 3
1802	33 1	36 4	20 7	39 3	39 6	43 3	67 5
1803	24 10	34 8	21 3	38 7	38 6	36 11	56 6
1804	30 4	38 7	23 9	40 8	40 10	37 1	60 1
1805	44 8	47 5	28 0	43 8	48 4	54 4	87 10
1806	38 6	43 9	25 8	44 2	43 6	47 4	79 0
1807	38 4	47 3	28 1	44 3	55 11	47 6	73 3
1808	42 1	60 8	33 8	48 9	66 7	52 4	79 0
1809	47 3	60 9	32 8	51 4	60 2	60 9	95 7
1810	47 1	53 7	29 4	51 11	55 9	58 0	106 2
1811	41 10	47 10	27 11	48 6	51 6	49 11	94 0

Custom-house, London, }
28th July, 1812. }

John Irving,
Inspector General of Imports & Exports.

AN ACCOUNT of all CORN and GRAIN, MEAL, FLOUR, and
IMPORTED FROM

Years	Barley.	Barley Meal.	Beans.	Indian Corn.	Indian Meal.	Malt.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Pease.
	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.
1792	5,446	—	1,847	—	—	—	435,931	116,039	9
1793	4,285	—	3,312	—	—	—	269,465	36,250	—
1794	17,198	—	1,847	—	—	—	361,653	26,646	—
1795	—	—	1,984	—	—	—	335,920	30,304	—
1796	—	—	879	—	—	—	280,416	95,881	—
1797	12,268	—	587	—	—	—	289,258	71,304	—
1798	49,780	—	3,787	—	—	—	310,579	81,651	51
1799	151	—	1,563	—	—	—	324,857	54,135	—
1800	78	—	—	—	—	—	640	2,785	—
1801	—	—	—	—	—	—	366	14	—
1802	7,116	—	1,655	—	—	2,303	275,088	105,040	113
1803	12,879	—	1,653	—	—	25	230,917	55,695	611
1804	2,521	—	3,060	—	—	—	198,758	64,845	1,078
1805	15,656	—	2,009	—	—	—	186,144	26,969	1,634
1806	3,327	—	2,361	—	—	—	326,814	47,558	1,388
1807	19,059	104	2,768	—	—	—	307,957	31,702	1,390
1808	27,465	1,309	2,065	—	—	—	436,854	67,587	75
1809	14,537	—	2,669	—	—	—	782,622	64,899	38
1810	8,198	421	3,541	—	—	—	417,697	41,531	216
1811	2,031	—	3,999	—	—	—	207,255	23,080	50

IMPORTED FROM

Years	Barley.	Barley Meal.	Beans.	Indian Corn.	Indian Meal.	Malt.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Pease.
	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	—	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.
1792	113,080	—	36,665	5,677	—	—	450,976	—	4,793
1793	142,884	—	26,408	2	—	—	429,994	—	18,553
1794	111,370	—	88,396	1,600	—	—	484,370	—	40,368
1795	18,070	—	13,828	20,586	—	—	105,168	8	20,263
1796	40,035	—	34,927	22,410	20,651	—	459,932	15	32,711
1797	51,930	—	16,807	107	14	—	274,490	2	17,818
1798	66,705	—	8,540	21	—	—	411,456	—	21,632
1799	19,387	—	3,237	2	—	—	170,235	—	8,750
1800	180,898	—	15,796	8,436	9,471	—	542,605	7	26,796
1801	113,966	—	16,246	44,472	113,141	—	582,628	63	44,218
1802	8,136	—	4,138	737	15,513	—	241,848	—	10,558
1803	1,148	—	85	669	146	—	254,799	14	23,381
1804	9,074	2	8,868	242	8	—	500,369	2	18,570
1805	27,645	—	8,727	16	27	—	275,105	—	8,583
1806	2,058	—	1,045	108	18	—	183,428	—	171
1107	3,043	—	9,997	1,062	4	—	426,032	—	4,680
1808	4,601	216	8,674	4,307	5	1,228	34,630	73	12,807
1809	13,341	31	27,297	1,262	—	55	296,911	861	53,071
1810	17,953	153	11,685	36	3	893	115,916	3	12,053
1811	39,900	778	357	13	12	1,495	11,446	410	4,994

Custom-house, London, 28th July, 1812.

RICE Imported into GREAT BRITAIN, from 1792 to 1811, both inclusive, &c.
IRELAND.

<i>Rye.</i>	<i>Ryemeal.</i>	<i>Wheat.</i>	<i>Wheat Flour.</i>	<i>Total Quantity Imported.</i>			<i>Total Value at the average Market Prices.</i>	<i>Amount of Bounties paid within the Year.</i>		
				<i>Corn and Grain.</i>	<i>Meal and Flour.</i>	<i>Rice.</i>				
<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
491	—	1,270	—	492,994	116,089	—	598,870	—	—	—
30	—	13,974	2,080	291,066	38,330	—	391,460	—	—	—
414	—	8,551	2,121	389,663	28,767	—	495,004	—	—	—
—	—	13,408	37,96	351,312	34,100	—	526,503	—	—	—
—	—	—	11	381,295	95,892	—	470,628	—	—	—
—	—	36,489	14,257	358,597	85,561	—	464,254	—	—	—
—	—	16,667	2,864	380,864	84,515	—	549,848	—	—	—
—	—	14,773	1,898	341,344	56,035	—	600,920	—	—	—
—	—	131	2,164	849	4,946	—	13,785	—	—	—
—	—	—	1,834	366	1,848	—	3,804	—	—	—
282	—	86,939	79,032	373,496	184,072	—	839,507	—	—	—
763	—	48,228	45,633	295,065	101,332	—	525,860	—	—	—
206	—	65,890	14,655	271,513	79,48	—	564,321	—	—	—
235	—	78,692	18,884	284,370	45,555	—	721,304	—	—	—
330	—	91,543	38,918	425,563	86,476	—	925,153	—	—	—
85	—	38,784	7,487	371,043	39,295	—	687,996	—	—	—
447	—	39,436	2,254	506,342	71,136	—	1,091,709	—	—	—
401	—	57,680	10,301	857,947	75,208	—	1,732,155	—	—	—
10	—	82,280	30,790	512,565	72,741	—	1,205,511	—	—	—
—	—	95,062	36,444	306,397	59,522	—	836,926	—	—	—

FOREIGN PARTS.

<i>Rye.</i>	<i>Ryemeal.</i>	<i>Wheat.</i>	<i>Wheat Flour.</i>	<i>Total Quantity Imported.</i>			<i>Total Value at the average Market Prices.</i>	<i>Amount of Bounties paid within the Year.</i>		
				<i>Corn and Grain.</i>	<i>Meal and Flour.</i>	<i>Rice.</i>				
<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
12,536	—	18,905	7,757	642,598	7,757	234,025	856,095	—	—	—
55,564	—	415,376	211,588	1,088,781	211,588	193,680	2,021,993	—	—	—
24,058	3,705	316,086	9,308	1,066,248	15,015	86,576	1,768,811	—	—	—
11,507	37,595	274,522	86,726	463,939	124,322	145,500	1,461,622	—	—	—
160,583	11,611	820,381	205,855	1,570,377	258,132	407,048	4,487,116	575,418	4	9½
8,258	—	420,414	2,769	789,824	2,785	118,241	1,455,722	28,565	6	1½
6,925	—	378,740	1,734	894,019	1,734	203,447	1,569,757	451	13	9
22,051	2,650	430,274	61,584	653,354	64,254	98,570	1,765,840	16	0	7½
138,713	22,025	1,174,522	31,287	2,037,765	343,870	315,649	8,755,995	44,836	13	0½
99,847	177,494	1,186,237	333,016	2,087,614	1,125,714	310,609	10,149,098	1,420,655	1	1½
14,889	1,162	470,698	236,061	751,004	252,736	452,300	2,155,794	715,523	16	4
3,347	—	224,055	309,409	507,484	309,569	113,999	1,164,592	43,977	9	10
2,438	—	386,194	17,060	925,755	17,072	60,402	1,855,333	4,791	5	11½
24,032	—	821,164	54,539	1,165,272	54,566	78,925	3,754,851	21,799	0	8
683	2	136,763	248,907	324,256	248,927	147,722	1,106,540	—	—	—
7,309	—	215,776	504,209	667,539	504,215	97,753	1,878,521	129	11	2
4,724	3	35,780	19,642	106,751	19,339	46,659	356,460	4,404	2	9
13,047	541	245,774	497,314	631,236	498,747	556,218	2,705,496	—	—	—
90,116	3,206	1,304,577	172,633	1,555,229	475,978	272,370	7,077,865	138	8	9
27,765	166	179,645	31,215	265,531	32,581	124,802	1,092,804	—	—	—

William Irving, Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

**AN ACCOUNT of all CORN and GRAIN, MEAL, FLOUR and RICE
EXPORTED to GUERNSEY and JERSEY, HIS MAJESTY'S**

Years.	Barley.	Barley Meal.	Beans.	Indian Corn.	Indian Meal.	Malt.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Pease.
	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.
1792	15,732	—	10,840	—	—	4,391	20,817	2,195	4,214
1793	1,357	—	9,771	—	—	1,933	14,099	3,688	3,860
1794	2,162	—	7,518	—	—	3,525	13,358	4,146	2,439
1795	1,789	—	5,132	465	—	4,627	5,160	2,274	809
1796	7,204	—	5,618	2,664	—	5,929	10,072	3,003	1,612
1797	1,653	—	8,476	5,095	1,327	7,846	16,835	4,492	2,248
1798	1,276	—	16,056	580	23	8,524	21,398	5,748	3,359
1799	23,486	—	9,508	—	—	10,299	15,830	6,590	2,198
1800	3,393	—	7,146	—	—	2,415	9,494	3,951	1,781
1801	1,614	—	5,476	186	1,988	2,111	12,200	4,774	1,474
1802	3,399	—	6,792	6	—	3,148	14,668	3,300	2,823
1803	20,568	—	4,640	—	—	5,834	10,885	3,792	2,474
1804	19,871	—	5,877	—	—	8,651	17,166	3,091	2,868
1805	3,282	—	5,490	—	—	6,702	13,908	3,720	3,875
1806	15,612	—	6,734	—	—	6,455	27,758	12,938	4,275
1807	1,767	—	7,371	—	—	6,039	18,840	13,619	2,275
1808	2,707	—	6,519	210	—	5,942	21,125	8,914	3,287
1809	3,647	—	2,827	—	—	4,807	15,312	7,576	2,504
1810	3,965	—	2,606	—	—	6,621	18,715	9,253	2,781
1811	6,758	73	2,017	—	—	8,731	15,747	7,240	2,872

EXPORTED TO

Years.	Barley.	Barley Meal.	Beans.	Indian Corn.	Indian Meal.	Malt.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Pease.
	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.
1792	13,378	—	816	—	—	1,5630	3,353	—	1,415
1793	172	—	103	—	—	—	2,138	40	722
1794	802	—	—	1,448	—	2,948	30	50	841
1795	—	—	10	—	—	—	260	—	500
1796	—	—	—	625	—	—	—	—	500
1797	3,000	—	2	1,324	4,384	24	2,034	10	587
1798	1,580	—	36	—	—	3,696	2,202	—	56
1799	1,415	—	—	500	—	6,186	1,803	—	113
1800	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	38
1801	—	—	—	192	—	—	78	—	34
1802	1,328	—	—	1,322	400	—	814	—	47
1803	2,188	—	245	—	—	5,193	3,162	115	152
1804	5,231	2,125	41	58	—	4,096	2	3	131
1805	3,273	—	—	—	—	200	92	—	11
1806	908	—	—	—	—	350	6	—	407
1807	4,593	—	—	—	—	1,163	3,862	—	50
1808	229	1,207	—	—	—	1,551	135	536	269
1809	1,414	30	—	—	—	1,023	773	—	106
1810	7,383	83	198	—	—	1,597	484	398	278
1811	16,488	83	78	—	—	2,251	24,000	20	731

Custom-house, London, 28th July, 1812.

1814.] delivered at the Board of Agriculture.

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Exported from GREAT BRITAIN, in 1792 to 1811, both inclusive.
GARRISONS beyond the SEAS, the BRITISH PLANTATIONS, &c.

Rye.	Rye Meal.	Wheat.	Wheat. Flour.	Total Quantities Exported.			Total value at the average Market Prices.
				Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.	
Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£.
103	—	1,429	83,231	57,296	85,426	14,866	158,313
13	—	2,385	67,200	33,418	70,883	6,167	123,029
49	—	40,505	97,144	69,556	101,290	11,032	259,076
115	603	—	61,319	16,097	64,196	1,017	116,133
72	—	93	81,542	36,259	84,635	11,686	190,414
108	1,436	2,949	97,393	45,210	104,648	18,055	178,992
6	—	3,736	125,031	54,935	130,802	21,232	221,912
40	—	13,599	62,259	74,960	68,849	13,788	277,491
37	300	4,406	49,515	28,675	53,766	5,940	213,000
25	—	4	77,559	23,090	84,301	5,196	234,115
—	—	548	58,156	30,884	61,456	12,171	133,003
—	—	437	74,956	44,838	78,748	4,400	147,460
—	—	54	94,436	134,487	97,531	11,207	339,056
—	—	43	66,610	33,300	70,330	6,844	189,538
170	—	1,648	58,198	62,952	71,136	7,185	235,056
—	—	2,634	50,123	38,928	63,742	3,999	179,868
178	300	4,387	201,157	14,355	210,401	5,127	395,135
—	—	4,866	83,784	33,763	91,360	2,873	247,685
30	78	7,688	21,300	42,446	30,631	5,348	192,259
200	930	9,523	56,182	45,928	64,425	10,298	249,019

FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

Rye.	Rye Meal.	Wheat.	Wheat. Flour.	Total Quantities Exported.			Total value at the average Market Prices.
				Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.	
Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£.
16,048	—	249,553	89,305	300,193	89,303	160,093	905,440
499	—	42,481	44,812	46,012	44,852	90,005	238,024
1,870	—	75,768	38,569	83,709	38,619	68,404	320,411
—	—	677	2,248	1,546	2,248	24,792	33,260
50	—	584	2,466	1,759	2,466	65,006	75,757
—	—	20,127	12,678	27,706	17,072	51,675	131,917
674	—	18,402	6,726	26,646	6,726	52,300	122,428
—	396	3,361	16,150	13,378	16,546	30,838	88,116
—	1,148	3,496	—	3,509	1,148	482	21,578
—	6,926	5,225	3,587	5,527	10,513	15,751	62,979
6,484	—	103,866	98,957	113,861	99,357	198,728	674,057
10,30	—	47,193	26,370	69,168	26,485	52,763	246,100
3,798	—	30,175	20,520	53,532	22,648	39,083	197,036
3,808	—	54,200	16,384	61,584	16,384	34,890	315,564
3,830	—	3,068	28,775	8,589	28,775	42,180	102,066
956	—	—	25,935	10,621	25,935	26,811	80,024
3,729	—	4,108	40,593	10,021	42,338	19,232	89,096
708	13	—	8,558	4,023	8,701	25,876	50,984
8,125	2,86	53,800	25,746	71,855	32,087	153,706	524,664
35,035	161	63,726	20,621	172,609	29,888	73,400	644,450

William Irving, Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

Some statesmen have believed that an extended use of the plough would produce important and beneficial consequences. Much good would certainly be effected : but I mean not to place exclusive reliance on a general system of ploughing. On the contrary, such a measure might probably defeat the very purpose it was intended to accomplish. It is evident that large stocks of cattle are primary elements in the subsistence of an increasing population. All must be aware that, to the general use of meat we owe the frequent prevention of a famine in this country. Let the kind and quality of the articles of subsistence be lowered, and the maintenance of the whole people will be placed in proportionably greater hazard. In the Chinese empire rice, the food of the common people; and in Ireland the potato, are equally general articles of diet; and are frequently so scarce as to sell at seven or eight times the usual current price. At such periods a nearly absolute famine must take place. In Ireland, the consequences of this low kind of subsistence, and of the great rise in the price of the chief article of consumption, have been very conspicuous; for it has often happened that the increase of price alluded to has been contemporaneous with a large exportation of grain; a combination very remarkable, and which strikingly exemplifies, or rather demonstrates, the benefit that would ensue from enriching the food of the people, or raising, if I may so express it, the *tarif of life*. Is it not manifest that the higher a people live, the surer and stronger is the relative check to their too rapid increase; and that expense and costliness of living are a species of *moral restraint*, which tend to regulate and keep down their increase in number? And is not this

moral restraint a better corrective of the redundancy of population, than the wide-wasting pestilence, the bloody hand of war, or the infectious corruptions of vice, and evil habits?

A people in such circumstances of life must necessarily be less exposed to scarcities, and suffer less by them, than in the lowest and barest state of poverty. Nor is this all: seasons of scarcity, for want of the better influence of this salutary check, are seasons of crime and delinquency. Let us consult the criminal calendars of such periods; the increase of culprits will be a melancholy proof of this assertion.

Every successive scarcity has increased the evils which it is its nature to produce; and like a ball of snow which gathers magnitude and velocity as it rolls, the accumulated mass, if not checked in its disastrous career, threatens the national power and resources with no trifling calamities.

The late census proves an increase of population, and consequently implies a necessity of an increase of food; nor is it possible to state to you a more extraordinary fact than the proportion of the soil which yet lies an absolute waste. By a report of the Board printed in 1808, page 2. the exact quantity appears to be 22,107,001, acres; but several acts of inclosure have since taken place, and the quantity may be now considered as 18,000,000. Hardly a single effort of consequence has been made, except by this board and by its members individually to bring these lands into a state of productive culture.

A needy population, I am aware, is thought a hackneyed complaint; and hence, perhaps, it is that no remedy has been attempted. We have gone on gradually increasing the quantity of corn imported, and

oring a redundant population into existence, by an overwhelming and increasing poor-rate, which is in fact a premium on national idleness, and on the multiplication of mouths which we cannot feed.

I shudder to say that the awful period is arrived, when there exists a greater amount and variety of individual distress arising from the want of provisions, than I believe has been heard of for many centuries. This is the more extraordinary, seeing that the soil and climate of these islands are such as do not originate those dreadful deaths which other countries experience. It may be of use to state more minutely some facts which have come to my knowledge upon this subject.

It is known that an association has been formed for the relief of the manufacturing poor, of which association his Royal Highness the Duke of York is chairman. This society has instituted and carried on the most extensive correspondence on the state of the poor that, I dare say, ever took place. I have seen a digest of the letters which have been received from various parts of the country.*

Bolton.

Overseers unable to answer the increasing demands of the poor: the very countenances of the poor indicate their sufferings.

Burslem, May 20, 1812.

One fifth of the men at potteries out of employ.

Bradford, May 25, 1812.

Many families have not a morsel of bread.

Huddersfield, May 26, 1812.

Distress unexampled.

Mansfield, May 25, 1812.

Many utterly unable to procure the common necessities of life; many who had lived far above want are in very very abject poverty.

Carlisle, May 30, 1812.

Hundreds of families in this place, as well as at Wigton and Brampton, are not able to procure one half of the necessities of life.

Nottingham, May 30, 1812.

Hundreds without employment, and those who are employed and have families are in great poverty.

Stockport, June 2, 1812.

Never before saw the labouring poor look so ill or appearing so ragged; many are miserably wretched, and a few nearly in a starving state. Parish consists of 20,000, and the inhabitants able to contribute bear a very small proportion.

New Mills, Derbyshire, June 25, 1812.

Distressed state of the industrious poor indescribable; few persons of independence; and those in business, through badness of trade, much embarrassed.

Todmorden, near Halifax, June 23, 1812.

Many deserving industrious poor, by exertion in better times, have got a house decently furnished, which would be forfeited to the town if they applied for relief, and who would rather go short of a meal than see their house broke up.

Heckmondwike, near Leeds, June 23, 1812.

Distresses of the labouring poor are great and complicated; many have sold all their goods, some sent to jail for debt, and creditors are deterred from seizing because they cannot find purchasers; poor-rates inadequate from increase of paupers; numerous applications for relief made weekly, and it is not in their power to attend to them.

* The circumstances described are not always at the place, but in poor districts near it.

Radford, near Nottingham, July 2, 1812.

Great numbers not only wholly out of employ, but the earnings of others so much abated as to render them incapable of procuring the proper necessaries of support.

Mansfield, July 7, 1812.

On more particular inquiry into the state of the poor, far greater distress was found than had been imagined.

Rockdale, July 9, 1812.

Many nearly starving.

Liversedge, Yorkshire, July 11, 1812.

Has long been and now is in a very deplorable state.

Warrington, July 23, 1812.

Great numbers in a state of distress beyond the power of the more opulent to relieve.

Disley, near Stockport, July 27, 1812.

Necessities of the poor urgent and extreme. It is known to the neighbourhood that many families have sought sustenance from boiled nettles and wild greens without salt.

Farnley Tyas, near Huddersfield, July 20, 1812.

Have had to contend with difficulties unparalleled on any former occasion.

Hayfield, August 7, 1812.

The sufferings of the poor cannot easily be conceived, except by those who have witnessed them.

Middletown, August 1, 1812.

The poor have not had a sufficiency of bread for themselves and families: proofs of this would almost be endless and distressing in the extreme.

Gorton, near Manchester, August 8, 1812.

1150 inhabitants, and not above 20 who can boast of a tolerable independence.

Bury, August 8, 1812.

Causes of distress numerous and urgent, and more so than was expected before an inquiry was insti-

tuted into the cause of the general cries of the poor.

Manchester, July 28, 1812.

In one of the poorest and most populous places near Manchester, there are few persons of affluent or even middling circumstances to be found; that the poor are next door to starvation.

Rawdon, near Leeds

Population 1450, stand in need of relief; poor are in very great distress.

Bacup, near Rochdale, August 15, 1812.

Population 10,000; distresses great, and cannot be supplied either by private charities or legal rates.

Bradford, August 15, 1812.

Harrowing tales of woe from those who have visited the poor.

Gorton, near Manchester, August 20, 1812.

The poor sinking into a lower state of depression.

Bristall, near Leeds, August 22, 1812.

Distresses unexampled in the memory of the most aged inhabitant: the case is not that the wretched manufacturer feels himself, and behold his family reduced to a scanty meal of the most homely fare, they have not subsistence of any description.

Gargrave, Yorkshire, Sept 10, 1812.

Poor in danger of starving from lowness of wages; many unwilling to apply for parish relief; pressure felt also by small farmers: if it continue some of them must solicit relief for themselves.

Gorton, near Manchester, Dec. 23, 1812.

There are few cottages in which either sickness, famine, or distress have not made some ravages.

Addingham, near Skipton, Dec. 29, 1812.

More distress among the poor than during any period in the recollection of the writer.

Eastcombe, Gloucester, Dec. 29, 1812.

The poor are literally hungry, cold, and half-naked.

Shelley, near Huddersfield, Jan. 4, 1813.

Our poor, and also the small occupiers of land, are in such distressed circumstances that they are utterly unable to pay the taxes.

Grange, near Wakefield, Jan. 6, 1813.

With the exception of ten or twelve families, I may denote the whole township as paupers.

Bolton-le-moors, Jan. 6, 1813.

Impossible to state the number of paupers; they far exceed those to whom relief can be given out of the poor rates.

I have lately inquired into the state of the poor in a parish a few miles from London (Tottenham) which is free from many of those establishments which create and foster an indigent population. There is no manufacture nor any concern carried on by which the distress of the people can be in some degree accounted for. The wealth of the higher classes is conspicuous; for there is an expenditure of certainly not less than £.200,000 per annum from the purses of the more opulent parishioners; yet of 948 families returned under the late Population Act, full 600 are either paupers, or are partly dependent for subsistence on the charitable institutions within the parish; and I know that there are persons not parishioners who are at this time famishing.

Instances like these are most lamentable, not merely from the misery entailed on suffering individuals, but from the great degradation of national character, which is the consequence of reducing the majority of the people to the abject state of paupers, a condition on which the cheering incitements to industry never operate.

To a labouring man, what inducement, what prospect can be held out, that through a diligent and frugal way of life the evening of his days shall be blessed by comparative independence, and that the pillow of his age shall be softened by security from want, or the degrading resource of eleemosynary contributions? If he marry and have a family, no effort of manual toil can enable him to maintain that family without the bounty of the charitable, or dependence on the poor rates.

Although he be in the prime and vigour of life, he is discouraged by the reflection, that even a small family of children will sink him into the state of a weekly pensioner on the parish, will encumber him with want through life, and that his weary age will find no better shelter than a common workhouse.

This is a condition to which the labouring classes of the British community do not deserve to be reduced; and is one in which they cannot, they must not be suffered to remain; for what individual is there of any influence in society, who does not see that he must exert that influence in favour of his suffering countrymen? or the boasted independence of his native soil will be nothing but an empty name.

You now have seen the glaring evil which oppresses the humbler classes of society, plainly and I trust faithfully exposed; and I have already called your attention to that very obvious remedy so often recommended by this Board, a general act of inclosure. Such a measure would in fact, give to individuals a title to the eighteen millions of acres now lying nearly waste; and that consideration alone will authorise and ensure their cultivation. Yet I must not, I repeat it, be considered amongst those who consider a gene-

ral inclosure as in itself an adequate remedy for all the distresses of the country. There is a powerful stimulant over a people; I allude to indirect legislation, of which use may be made so as to provide and maintain a check on the over-rapid increase of population. "If any circumstance can point out more than another the importance of this subject, it is the consideration, that improved agriculture and extended tillage, when pursued in such a manner as to increase the people in a greater ratio than the productions of their industry are capable of supporting, may become the means of weakening rather than of strengthening a state. Barrow observes, speaking of the Chinese, that the inhabitants 'raise no surplus quantity:' this remark with reference to the state of China, affords a most useful lesson to the statesmen; namely, that fertile fields and abundant crops, while the great body of the people remain in misery and wretchedness, do not constitute national wealth.*"

Without the moral restraint of plentiful living, upon which I have already dwelt, a period may, therefore arrive, when the benefits likely to accrue from inclosure and cultivation will decline and expire.

In the remarks which I have had the honour to submit to your consideration, my chief object has been to call your attention to the great fact, that this country, although blessed by nature with an over-abundant extent of territory in proportion to its population, is not able to feed its inhabitants; and while our lands are in many instances lying in a barren and unproductive state, a large portion of the people are unemployed and starving.

When such is the situation of af-

fairs, something must be greatly wrong; and it is a subject which ought more to interest the politician than the march of armies, the dubious victories of generals however renowned, the cold calculations on perishing enemies, or the constant and desperate struggles of power, for emolument, and self-aggrandizement, which too frequently occupy our minds.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ACCOUNT OF THE NATIVE SCHOOLS IN INDIA.

THE following authentic account of the native schools in the peninsula of India, from a gentleman of the first eminence in the medical department, has been extracted from the Repository of Theology and General Literature. It has been thought many readers might wish to see how far the improvements in education lately introduced into Great Britain may have been derived from these sources.

The Method of conveying Instruction in the Canarese Schools within the Mysore Territory, as witnessed in the City of Mysore.

1. At their entrance into the school the scholars are taught the first letters by the master himself; for it is ordered in the Shasters, that the primary instruction shall always be conveyed by the superior of the school.

2. The boys are seated upon the ground, and a quantity of fine sand is spread before them, in which the master makes with his fore finger the first letter of a short line composed of ten vowels and consonants, signifying salutation and supplication to the Deity, and which is always

* Wakefield's Ireland, vol. ii. p. 682, and 685.